MANAGEMENT PLAN

November, 1996

for Marble Canyon Provincial Park

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks
BC Parks Department

105-05633/

Marble Canyon
Provincial Park

MANAGEMENT PLAN

Prepared by
BC Parks Kamloops Area Pilot Project Team
for Thompson River District
Kamloops, B.C.

BC Parks

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks

BC Parks Kamloops, BC

APPROVALS

Kamloops Area Management Planning Pilot Project Binder Approvals Page

Forward

This binder contains 16 management plans developed under the Kamloops Area Management Planning Pilot Project. This project began in 1994 to develop, implement and evaluate a systems approach to management planning. The project concluded in October, 1996. The management plans contained in this binder provide long-term direction for a group of 10 Class A parks, five ecological reserves and one recreation area. The intention is to review this binder and the plans contained here at regular intervals. Plan vision statements and objectives will not change extensively over time. Management actions, however, will change as priorities, funding and support resources come available.

- ☐ Coldwater River Park
- ☐ Goldpan Park
- ☐ Juniper Beach Park
- ☐ Lac Le Jeune Park
- ☑ Marble Canyon Park
- ☐ McConnell Lake Park
- ☐ McQueen Creek Eco. Res.
- ☐ Monck Park
- ☐ Paul Lake Park
- ☐ Skihist Eco. Res.
- ☐ Skihist Park
- ☐ Skwaha Lake Eco. Res.
- ☐ Soap Lake Eco. Res.
- ☐ Steelhead Park
- ☐ Tranquille Eco. Res.
- ☐ Walloper Lake

Approved by:

District Manager
Thompson River District
BC Parks Department

Assistant Deputy Minister
Park Management Committee
BC Parks Department

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Marble Canyon Provincial Park

Management Plan

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MARBLE CANYON PROVINCIAL PARK

MANAGEMENT PLAN

Introduction

This management plan defines the role of Marble Canyon Park within the provincial park system and the objectives and guidelines for managing the resources and visitor use activities in the park.

The park role, objectives and zoning as stated in the plan cannot be contravened in meaning or intent without consultation with the public and approval of the District Manager and the Parks Management Committee (PMC). A five year business plan is included as appendix B to provide direction for management and development of the park. The business plan is subject to annual review and adjustments.

Background

The outstanding natural feature setting of Marble Canyon was formally recognized with establishment of the park in 1956 over Crown, Turquoise and a portion of Pavilion Lake. A small campground (26 sites) and day use (8 tables, 22 vehicle parking) facilities serve as the base for recreation use, catering to both travel corridor and destination use.

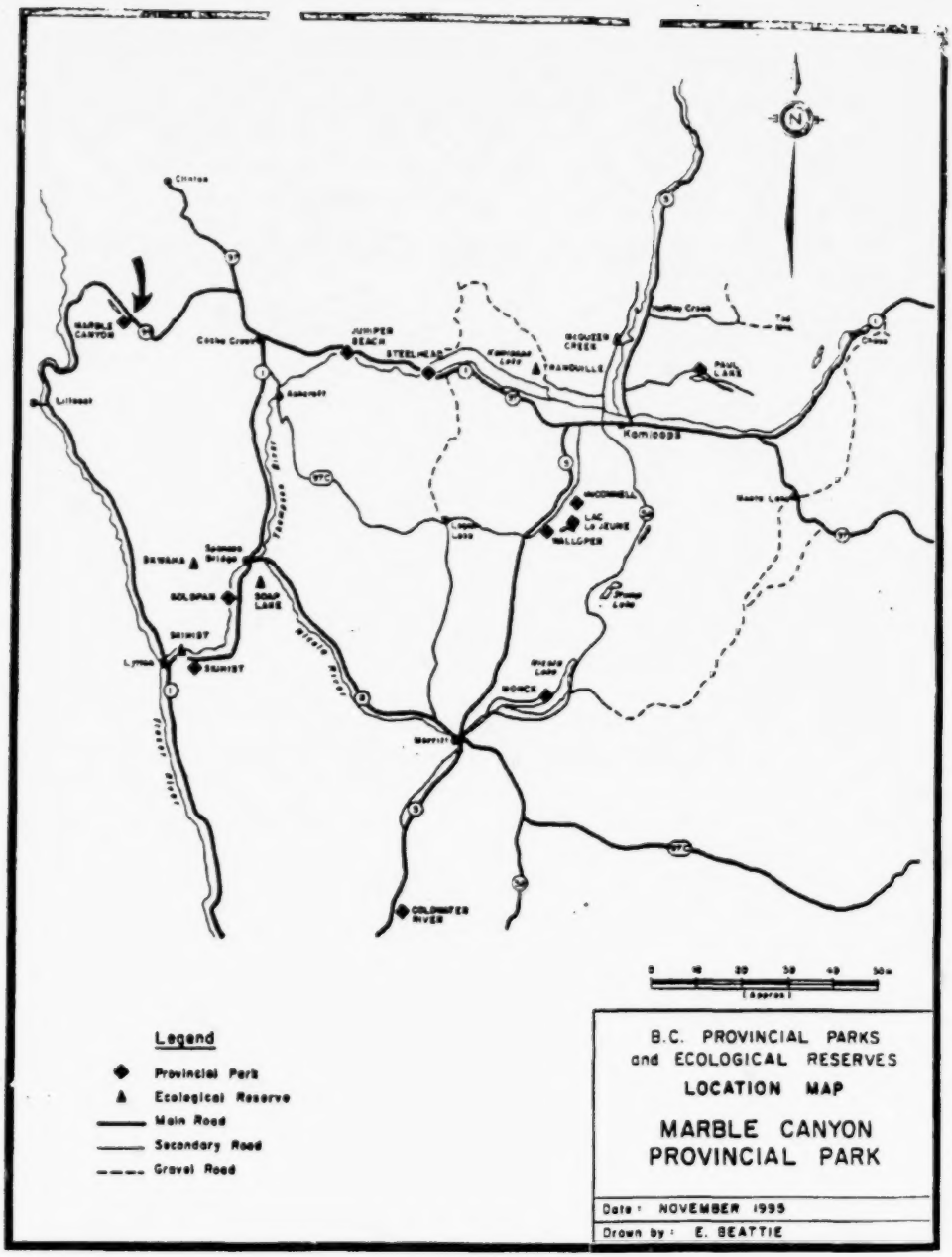
Visitor use is heavy throughout the summer season and the park is also relatively well used in the spring and fall months. Campground use averages 9,000 people and day use (picnicking/rest stop) 90,000 people a year. Opening of the Duffey Lake road from the coast to the interior has significantly increased use for the Park both for transient overnight and day use.

Protected Area Values

Conservation

For its size (332.7 ha.), the Park has a rich assortment of natural habitats and features:

- Crown and Turquoise lakes and portion of Pavilion Lake
- marsh shorelines around Turquoise Lake; rocky shoreline habitats around Crown Lake; shrub and treed shoreline along Pavilion Lake
- pockets of old growth Douglas fir on east and south sides of Turquoise Lake; large speciments of Ponderosa pine; broken rocky slopes with grasses, junipers and Douglas fir


Legend
Provincial Park
Ecological Reserve
Main Road
Secondary Road
Gravel Road
B.C. PROVINCIAL PARKS
and ECOLOGICAL RESERVES
LOCATION MAP
MARBLE CANYON
PROVINCIAL PARK
Date : NOVEMBER 1995
Drawn by : E. BEATTIE

Recreation

- Visual setting of picturesque coloured lakes in a dry forest environment, surrounded by spectacular limestone canyon walls, waterfall and rock features

- Recreation opportunities for camping, swimming, picnicking, canoeing, fishing, hiking, nature study, photography and ice and rock climbing

- Warm, dry climate conducive to a long visitor use season from May to October

Culture

- Pictographs and archaeological sites are evidence of long native history and use of the area, associated with occupancy and food gathering by ancestors of the present Pavilion Indian Band

Vision Statement

Marble Canyon Park will continue to perform a significant role in the provision of outdoor recreation opportunities in the Thompson River District. Recent establishment of the new protected area in the Stein River Valley along with the new park at Duffey Lake will focus more tourism and recreation interest in the general Lillooet area, leading to more people discovering the attractions of Marble Canyon and the park. User demands will far exceed the existing facility capacity and options for expanding campground opportunities will have to be pursued within the next 5 to 10 years. In the interim, trails and interpretation facilities will be improved to enhance recreation opportunities in the park.

Conservation Role

- To maintain the character and qualities of the environment and features which form the aesthetic and recreational appeal of the park.

- To ensure protection of riparian and shoal habitats in the park.

- To protect archaeological values in the park.

Recreation Role

- To maintain existing recreational opportunities for travel corridor and destination use. Recreation activities include camping, swimming, picnicking, canoeing, fishing, hiking, nature study, photography and ice and rock climbing.

Zoning

The Park is separated into two zones:

- Intensive Recreation – this zone delineates the limits for intensive facility development and includes the existing campground and day use facilities as well as the potential area for future campground development at the southeast corner of the park.

- Natural Environment – includes the remainder of the park to reflect the intent to maintain the relatively undisturbed condition of the environment.

Management Objectives – Natural Resources

Land

- To maintain long term interest in acquisition of key inholding on Pavilion Lake – Lot 2742.

- To add foreshore along Pavilion Lake.

- To pursue removal of the existing forest access road through the east end of the park as an option for finding space for additional campground development.

Water

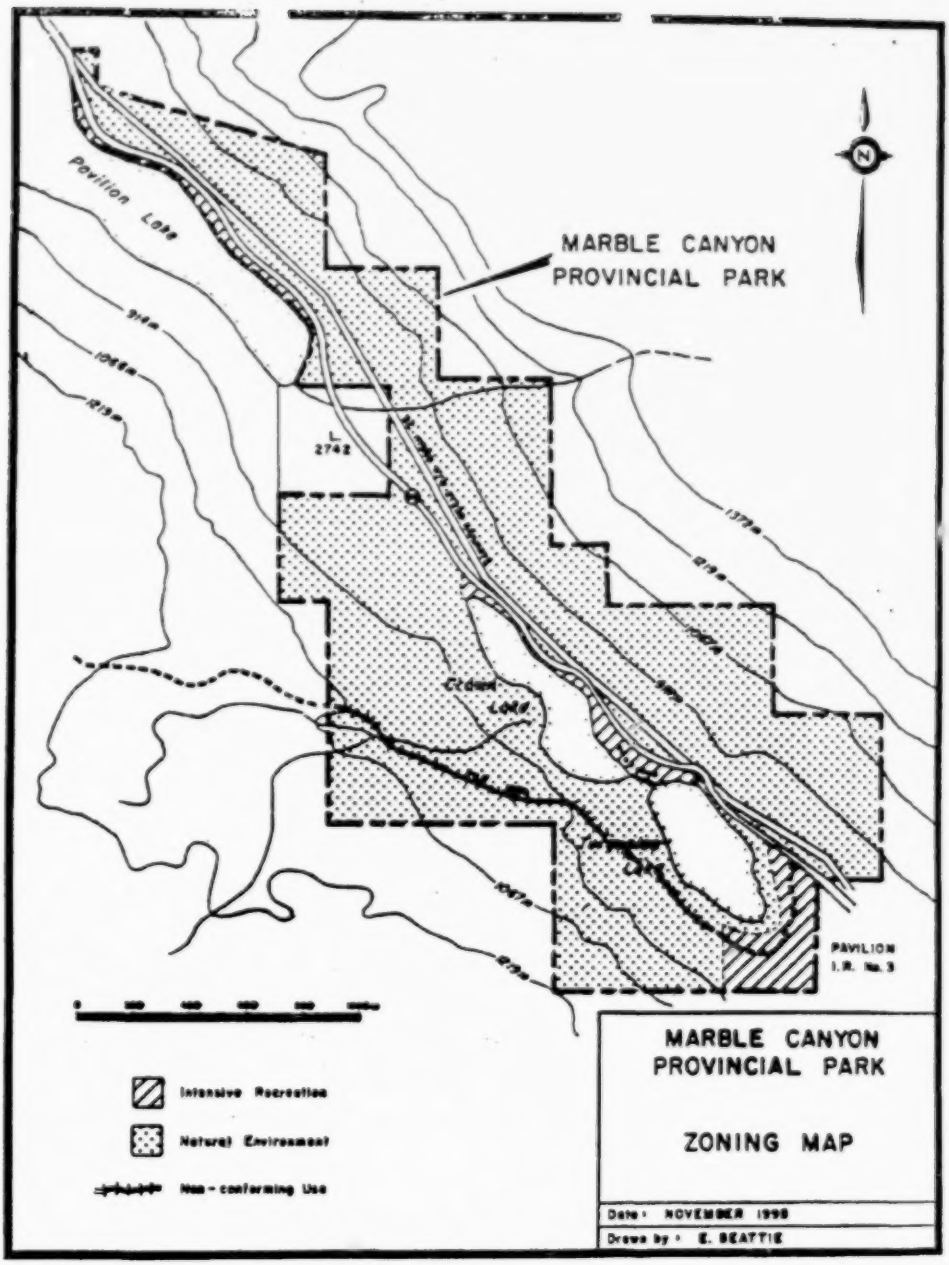
- To protect water quality in the park.

Vegetation

- To maintain the natural forest cover in the park to protect riparian and shoal habitats. All fires in the park will be vigorously fought.

- To ensure vegetation in the intensive recreation zone poses no unreasonable safety hazard.

- To maintain a biophysical inventory and ongoing long term monitoring of conditions and changes to habitats and composition, distribution and densities of plant and animal species.


MARBLE CANYON
PROVINCIAL PARK
Pavilion Lake
914m
1066m
1219m
L
2742
1371m
1219m
1066m
914m
Cinder Cone
Lake
Lake
1067m
914m
PAVILION
I.R. No. 3
Intensive Recreation
Natural Environment
Non-conforming Use
MARBLE CANYON
PROVINCIAL PARK
ZONING MAP
Date: NOVEMBER 1990
Drawn by: E. BEATTIE

Wildlife

- To maintain present levels of stocking (rainbow trout).

Visual

- To ensure that park facilities are designed and managed in harmony with the park setting.

Management Objectives – Recreation Opportunities

- To provide facilities and service to level 3 standards. (see appendix)
- To provide information and interpretive material about the park environs, Marble Canyon and local native and cultural history.

Appendix A - Service Level Explanation

BC Parks service levels provide a method of defining the facilities, information and services which the public can expect within the BC Provincial Parks system. The service levels do not include any measure of the capacity or use of the area, operating standards, or resource management issues. Instead, they are strictly a list of the key facilities and services that may be provided within a particular campground or day-use area. They also provide an opportunity to explore and understand the relationship between the facilities and services BC Parks offers and the expectations of the users or potential users. This will help in making decisions based on the type and grade of facilities and services that BC Parks plans to provide and their associated costs.

Table 1. Campground Service Levels Attributes

Attribute	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Facilities				
• Roads	paved	paved	usually gravel	gravel , dirt or none
• Toilets	flush	usually flush	pit	pit or none
• Water system	pressure	pressure	pressure or handpump	not usually supplied
• Campsites	standard design	standard design	standard design	informal (non-standard)
• Tables	Type I	Type I	Type I or II	Type II
• Sani-station	available	available	not usually available	not available
• Showers	available	not available	not available	not available
Information				
• Park entrance sign	portal or plaque	plaque	plaque or Type A	Type A
• Campground entrance sign	Type A	Type A	Type A	Type A or none
• Visitor centre	usually available	not available	not available	not available
• Information structures	information shelter	information shelter	single signs	single sign or no information
Services				
• Public telephone	usually available	usually available	not usually available	not available
• Garbage collection	minimum daily	minimum daily	minimum weekly	not usually available
• Security	up to 24 hour	routine patrols	occasional patrols	no patrols
• Visitor programs	available	possibly available	not usually available	not available

Table 2. Day-use Areas Service Level Attributes

Attribute	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Facilities				
• Roads	paved	paved	usually gravel	gravel , dirt or none
• Toilets	flush	usually flush	pit	pit or none
• Water system	pressure	pressure	handpump	not usually supplied
• Tables	Type I	Type I	Type II	Type II or none
• Change House	available (if suitable for swimming)	available (if suitable for swimming)	not usually available	not available
Information				
• Park entrance sign	portal or plaque	plaque	plaque or Type A	Type A
• Day-use Areas entrance sign	Type A	Type A	Type A	Type A or none
• Visitor centre	usually available	not available	not available	not available
• Information Structures	information shelter	information shelter	single signs	single sign or no information
Services				
• Public Telephone	usually available	usually available	not usually available	not available
• Garbage Collection	minimum daily	minimum daily	minimum weekly	not usually available